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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/905,550	07/13/2001	Pauli Koutonen	FORSAL-16	3909
20455	7590	03/09/2004	EXAMINER	
LATHROP & CLARK LLP 740 REGENT STREET SUITE 400 P.O. BOX 1507 MADISON, WI 537011507			NGUYEN, JOHN QUOC	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3654	

DATE MAILED: 03/09/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/905,550

Applicant(s)

KOUTONEN, PAULI *SW*

Examiner

John Q. Nguyen

Art Unit

3654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 December 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6,8,10,11,13,14,16 and 18-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-6,8,10,11,13,14,16 and 18-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 18.

- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

Art Unit: 3654

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: claims 6 and 21 (same subject matter as claim 6 in last paragraph).

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18-21 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stefanoni (US 5217177) in view of Shainberg et al (US 3961547), or Adami (US 6092452), or David (US 3408886), or Stewart (US 3587374).

Stefanoni discloses a winding apparatus with slitting means including two sets of blades; each set alternatively used in slitting while the other set is not operational. Shainberg et al, Adami, David, or Stewart all discloses slitting devices having at least two sets of slitters disposed in succession, with one set of slitters performing slitting while the other set is non-operational and in a position so that the slitting blades can be adjusted. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to adjust the non-operational slitting blades in the apparatus of Stefanoni as taught by Shainberg et al, Adami, David, or Stewart or to alternatively provide the apparatus of Stefanoni with slitting devices as taught by Shainberg et al, Adami, David, or Stewart

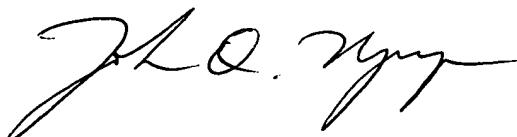
Art Unit: 3654

"so that the non-operational slitting blades can be adjusted. Official Notice is taken that steps in winding such as application of glue/adhesive for affixing the ends of the web, passing the web via a drawing nip, and using a flying splice/change unwinder are old and well known in the art and the use of such would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to obtain the same function. Claims 3 and 20 are deemed an obvious step to one of ordinary skill in the art since it is not feasible or logical to slit an already slit web. The provision of cores having widths to accord the widths of the slit webs would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to properly wind the slit webs (note also admitted prior art discussed on pages 1-2 of the specification).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-2689. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 6:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Matecki, can be reached on (703) 308-2688. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-4177.



John Q. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3654